

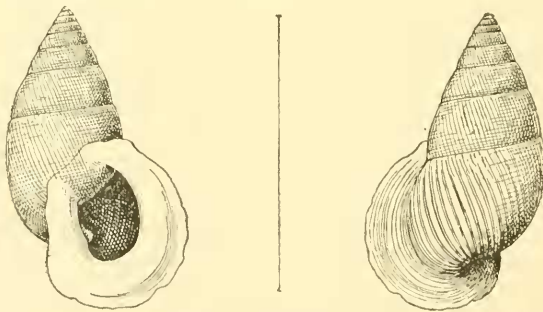
DESCRIPTION OF *CERASTUS DINSHAWI*, n.sp., FROM ADEN,
WITH A NOTE ON *OTOPOMA CLAUSUM*, SBY., AND
O. YEMENICUM, BRGT.

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Read 3rd April, 1903.

CERASTUS DINSHAWI, n.sp.

Shell acuminately pyramidal, with a well-excavated area in the umbilical region, protoconch flattened above; whorls $8\frac{1}{2}$, plano-convex; the sculpture consists of longitudinal striation, fine on the earlier whorls, but suddenly becoming much stronger and coarser, both on the last two-thirds of the last whorl and in the umbilical area; further, fine (almost microscopic) spiral lines, densely set together, encircle the shell. The colour is very pale yellow to white, and the majority of the specimens are stained with chestnut inside the mouth and on the last whorl; the mouth is somewhat drawn to the side, with a large 'flaring' lip, thickened internally and widely expanded, the edges becoming thin and generally being broken; a light callus joins the inner and outer margins; the columella is marked by a strong, spirally ascending fold. Dimensions: height of shell, 36 mm.; width of last whorl at the back (without the lip) 15 mm.; height of mouth (including the lip) 21 mm.; width of mouth (including the lip) 18 mm.



Cerastus Dinshawi, n.sp.

Hab.—Senna, about 100 miles from Aden.

Type in the British Museum, presented by Comm. E. R. Shopland.

This species belongs to the group of *C. Deflersi*, Jous., and *C. Adanicus*, Jous.,¹ neither of which has been figured, so far as I can trace, and of which I find no mention in Dr. Kobelt's monograph.² For other kindred species see the papers by Bourguignat³ and Martens.⁴

¹ Bull. Soc. Malac. France, vol. vi (1889), p. 345.

² Buliminidae, in "Conch.-Cab.," 1899-1902.

³ In Révoil: "Faune et Flore des pays Comalis."

⁴ Nachrbl. Deutsch. Malak. Ges., 1889, p. 145.

Both the above-named species are unknown to me, and therefore I regret that I am unable to give accurate comparative notes.

With the new species were found *C. candidus*, Lam., and a single specimen of a form belonging to the group of *C. labiosus*, Mull., and *C. sabæanus*, Brgt. While mentioning the last-named it may be convenient to note that Dr. Kobelt (*l.c.*, p. 419) appears to have been unaware of the figure given by Bourguignat (*l.c.*, p. 23, fig. 14), and, following Dr. Westerlund, has referred to *C. sabæanus* with doubt a shell from Syria and Cyprus, which he figures, and which appears to me to be quite distinct.

OTOPOMA CLAUSUM, Sby., and O. YEMENICUM, Brgt.

In 1843 Sowerby described and figured¹ a shell under the name of *Cyclostoma clausum*, stating that it came from Yemen, Arabia. He mentions that it is "spirally striated posteriorly," and points out that there is a callus covering the umbilicus. Six years later, Pfeiffer² described and figured under the name some specimens from the Cuming Collection, which are now in the British Museum: whether they be the same as those Sowerby described, it is hard to say, but if so, then Sowerby's figures are very bad indeed. Since then practically all authors have followed the identification of Pfeiffer, and probably that is the wisest course to adopt.

At p. 330 of the same work, Pfeiffer recorded and figured from "Mus. Cuming," as a variety of *clausum*, a shell with a single colour-band and a more elevated form. For this Bourguignat proposed³ the name *Georgia Yemenica*, but unfortunately he went on to compare the species with *clausum*, and stated that *Yemenica* was smooth above and below. Pfeiffer made no mention of the sculpture. Thanks to Mr. Smith's kindness, I think I have succeeded in tracing the specimen in the Cuming Collection to which Pfeiffer referred; it is, however, spirally sculptured in the same manner as *O. clausum*, and probably Bourguignat was judging from the figure given by Pfeiffer—which does not show the sculpture—when he stated that the shell was smooth.

There appear, therefore, to be two forms differing from one another chiefly in the amount of elevation of their respective spires. Of the more elevated form, I have recently seen specimens collected with the shell above described as *Cerastus Dinshawi*. The colour-banding appears not to be a reliable specific distinction, since in only one specimen is it present, and then there are several bands. The other specimens are all uniformly white, but this does not seem to be due to their being dead shells, since some of them show a dark line in the suture of the earlier whorls. I think, therefore, that there are two species, *clausum* and *Yemenicum*, belonging to *Georgia*, which I regard for the present as a section of *Otopoma*.

In conclusion, I have to thank Commander Shopland for the shells which have given me the opportunity of writing the above notes.

¹ Thes. Conch., vol. i, p. 128, pl. xxxi, figs. 266, 267.

² Conch.-Cab., *Cyclostomacca*, p. 147, pl. xx, figs. 13-15.

³ In Révoil: "Faune et Flore des pays Çomalis," p. 70.